PENNSYLVANIA LESBIAN/GAY SUPPORT NETWORK

JULY NEWSLETTER

NEXT MEETING: SATURDAY JULY 14th

PRIDE '79 UPDATE

Our most important need at present is to raise money. Special thanks to the people in Allentown — Betty, Joe and Rosemary — for their work in raising over $250 at a bar benefit on June 9th. The benefit, at *Rosemary's*, was the first of its kind in that city,and we are sending out the challenge to each of the other regions to match what they raised.

We discussed and passed a motion on straight press participation at **PRIDE '79**. It was agreed that nonLesbian/Gay media representatives could cover the conference as long as they abided by the rules set forth at the March meeting. No cameras or any type of photography will be allowed on the conference site. Reporters may not use people's names withour their permission. Audio recordings of workshops or meetings may be made only if all participants agree. Jobs and families need to be protected, so we are promising full anonymity to all who attend **PRIDE '79.**

Most of the workshop list is complete. Here are the ones that have been approved so far:

Series I - PERSONAL GROWTH:

Drinking Problems in the Community; Outreach to Older Lesbians & Gays; Issues in Parenting; Coming Out; Life in Rural Pa.; Economics of a Relationship; Bisexuality; Racism; Transexuality/Transvestism; Men and Feminism; S&M; Harrassment and Discrimination - On the Job and in the Streets.

Series II - SISTER/BROTHER SPACE

WORKSHOPS FOR WOMEN—Lesbian AA Meeting; Are We All In This Together - Who is a Politically Correct Lesbian?; Women's Poetry; Women's Music; Lesbian Sexuality/Relationships; Lesbian Health Issues.

WORKSHOPS FOR MEN—Gay Male AA Meeting; Male Autonomy; Our Cultural Heritage; Men's Music & Poetry; Gay Male Literature & Theatre; Gay Male Health Issues.

There will also be a workshop for Lesbian/Gay youth during this series.

Series III - COMMUNITY GROWTH:

Youthism/Ageism; Alcoholism - The Lesbian/Gay Disease; Media; Objectives for the 80's; Grassroots Fundraising; Political Strategies; Demonstration Tactics; Self Defense.

PENNSYLVANIA NOTES

In response to the Governor's Gay Pride proclamation and the subsequent attempts on the part of the legislature to rescind it, the **Central Pennsylvania Gay Alliance,** a group of Harrisburg area people, has been formed. Amongst their first projects is fundraising for several local groups. For more information. call the Harrisburg Switchboard, (717) 234-0328.

GIOVANNI'S ROOM, the world's best Gay and Feminist bookstore, is moving. Overcoming problems with several local landlords, the owners, Arleen Olshan and Ed Hermance, have purchased their own building. Beginning in August, the new address will be 12th & Pine Sts., Philadelphia. If you're in the area, stop by.

HELP!! HELP!! HELP!!

We're sure most of you appreciate receiving our monthly newsletter, but it doesn't get to you without a lot of work being done first. We need a volunteer(s) to take about four hours a month to address, stuff and mail the newsletter. If you invite a few friends over, it shouldn't take long and you can party at the same time. Also, as our mailing list increases, the costs go up. If anyone can donate stamps or envelopes, it would help greatly. Twenty dollars worth of fifteen cent stamps will cover one mailing, and the generous donor will be given a warm spot in all of our hearts. If you can help with either of these needs, write to us at the address below.

AT OUR LAST MEETING

As we enter our second year, the Network finds itself active in many areas and in need of lots more people to help make these programs successful. The meeting of June 16th covered many important items.

Governor Thornburgh's Gay Pride Week proclamation is still receiving much negative criticism. If you have not yet written in support, or know of friends who have procrastinated on this matter, it is still very important that the governor hear positive comments about his actions on behalf of the state Lesbian/Gay community. Write care of The Main Capitol Building, Harrisburg, Pa. 17120.

The membership adopted the statement of purpose which the executive committee had passed in May. This statement reinforces our committments to non-violent political action, state-wide social service programs, lobbying, improvement of communications, and aiding areas of the state where no organizations presently exist. Also, it was generally agreed that we codify the rules for conducting meetings and other business of the Netwrok in order to avoid future questions about Network procedure.

In addition to our committment to dealing with the problems of alcoholism in our community, the Network has agreed, in principle, to work on two other long range projects. A local group of attorneys has been meeting to consider tactics and proposals for sodomy law reform and repeal. The membership voted to offer our participation in some of these actions. As most of you know, this is the International Year of the Child, and the International Women's Year was in 1977. A movement is underway to have either 1980 or 1981 designated the International Year of the Older Person. Since we certainly should not be left out, the Network has unanimously called for 1985 to be the International Lesbian/Gay Year.

Pride week 1979 has come and gone, and now is the time to make plans for next year. The Network is asking groups all over the state to work with us in organizing a Pennsylvania Lesbian/Gay Pride Celebration. Each area of the state would have its own local activities, and the celebration would culminate with a mass parade/rally/block party in Harrrisburg, next spring.

We would appreciate any feedback you might have on these ideas .

AT OUR NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on Saturday July 14th, 1pm, at the Friends Meetinghouse, 6th & Herr Sts., Harrisburg.

We will be discussing, further, the rules of the Network. The planning of **PRIDE '79** goes on, and as we get closer to the conference date we need more and more people to help out. Preliminary nominations for our Community Service awards (which will be presented at the conference) are to be submitted at this meeting. If you know of someone or of an organization that you consider worthy of this award, please send those names to us. As always, the agenda is open to any new ideas or suggestions you might have.

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